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NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1957

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE LIBRARY 25 JUN 1963

Public Health Department,
Lewes House,
High Street,
LEWES, Sussex.

March, 1958.

NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

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To the Members of the Newhaven Port Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Port Health Report for Newhaven for the year 1957.

The most notable incident during the year was the suspension of the Cross-Channel passenger service from the 3rd of January until the 4th of April. The service was officially resumed on the 5th of April 1957. The total number of inward passengers (Alien and British) who arrived at the Port during the year was 172,860 compared with 198,786 in 1956 whilst outward passengers numbered 175,810 in 1957 as against 194,613 in 1956. During the nine months running of the service the volume of passenger traffic both inwards and outwards in the year under review was above the average of that in previous years.

During 1957 the number of inward aliens arriving at the Port was 43,330.

The annual numbers of inward aliens arriving at Newhaven from 1945 to 1957 are given in the following table:-

Year	Inward Aliens.	Year.	Inward Aliens.
1945	17,911	1952	52,104
1946	26,376	1953	51,084
1947	31,551	1954	54,652
1948	41,412	1955	58,410
1949	48,127	1956	49,934
1950	49,521	1957	43,330
1951	51,918		

Of the 43,330 aliens who arrived at the Port in 1957 forty were refused permission to land by the Immigration Officer; 42,367 were inspected by a Medical Inspector and 923 were subjected to detailed medical examinations. Six were found to be physically incapacitated.

In previous years there were only two medical inspectors. This led to difficulties at times in the past owing to the absence of one or the other inspectors through illness. Normally Cross Channel passenger vessels arrive at Newhaven every day of the year except on Christmas Day. In 1957 as in previous years there were additional afternoon services and early morning services both at Easter and in the summer months besides the single afternoon service disembarking passengers at Newhaven Port. From the official resumption of the Cross-Channel passenger service in April 1957, four medical inspectors have been engaged in rota at the Port dealing with aliens. The increase in the number of inspectors made administration easier and gave reasonable coverage during the year. This change has proved a distinct success.

Refusals to land aliens on medical grounds are imposed if the results of medical examination reveal that aliens are suffering from mental diseases or defects, are physically incapacitated or in some way are undesirable for any medical reasons and have such a gross incapacity likely to impair an alien's ability to maintain himself and his dependants. Refusals to land are the outcome of joint deliberations by the Immigration Officer and the Medical Inspector who act in unison. Conditional landings for specified periods of time are granted where for instance a slight static physical incapacity is present or some minor medical matter is revealed which will yield quickly to treatment, and cause none or little impairment of the alien's physical capacity . Besides the above matters which have to be dealt with medically, care must be taken that aliens are segregated when found to be suffering from infectious diseases and sent to hospital. Contacts of such cases have to be dealt with appropriately.

The medical inspection of aliens is one side of Port medical work. The importation and spread of infectious disease through British passengers, particularly if the infection is of the dangerous type, have to be dealt with and guarded against. Here again the manner of dealing appropriately and satisfactorily with the cases and contacts by the medical officer is of the greatest importance.

Besides the prevention of the importation and spread of infectious diseases through infected British or Alien passengers the Port Medical Officer with the Port Health Inspector are responsible for the prevention of the importation of rat plague; the carrying out of the provisions of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations; the supervision of the hygiene of crew and passenger accommodation in ships; the inspection of imported food and miscellaneous duties such as the supervision of the general sanitation of the district, smoke abatement etc. The Public Health (Ships) Regulations deal with infected or suspected ships, declarations of crews and passengers health by ships masters, detention of ships through suspected or actual cases of infectious illnesses; deratisation and deratisation certificates, powers to medically examine any person suspected to be suffering from dangerous infectious disease and proposing to embark on or already on board a ship. Many other matters are included in the Regulations such as the provision of medical rooms, means for cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing etc. hospital accommodation for persons to whom the regulations apply and so on.

The total tonnage entering Newhaven Port in 1957 was 540,533 tons as compared with 606,996 tons in 1956. In 1956 the numbers of ships entering the port were 1,039 from foreign ports and 267 coastwise. These decreased to 776 from foreign ports and 198 coastwise in 1957. Imports in 1957 amounted to 143,261 tons (1956, 162,929 tons) and comprised chiefly coal, coke and patent fuel, fruit and vegetables, timber, iron and steel.

Exports in 1957 amounted to 32,311 tons (1956, 30,027 tons) and were composed chiefly of vehicles and vehicle parts, machinery, building and road materials, iron and steel.

The number of motor vehicles imported in 1957 was 5,474 and exported 5,849 as against 5,264 and 5,280 respectively in 1956.

The main trade of Newhaven Port is with Dieppe and near continental ports. Ships also arrive in Newhaven from Baltic and Scandinavian Ports with timber.

Imports declined by about 20,000 tons in 1957 as compared with 1956. On the other hand exports increased by about 32,000 tons in 1957 over the tonnage in 1956.

I have to thank Drs. Neill and Alexander for coming forward so readily to help in the medical inspection of aliens. My thanks are also due to Dr. Kirker for his assistance. There is a happy relationship between the members of the medical staff at the Port and the members of the other departments, immigration, customs and C.I.D.

Lastly I want to tender my thanks to you for your help and encouragement during the year.

Yours obediently,

G.M.DAVIDSON LOBBAN.

M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.,F.R.S.I. etc.

Port Medical Officer and Medical Inspector of Aliens,
Newhaven Port.

Public Health Department,
Lewes House,
LEWES,
Sussex.

March, 1958.

SECTION I - STAFF.

TABLE A.

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment.	Date of Appointment	Qualifications.	Any other appointment held
Dr.G.M.D.S.B. Lobban.	Port Medical Officer and Medical Inspector of Aliens.	15th May, 1945.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.H., F.R.I.P.H., F.S.M.O.H.	M.O.H.E.Sx. United Dist. Physician (Infectious Diseases). Brighton & Lewes Hosp. Group, S.E. Met.Reg.Hosp Board.
Dr. R.A.Stenhouse to 5th April,1957.	Assistant Port Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens.	19th April, 1948.	L.M.S.S.A. (Lond.)	Asst.School Medical Officer,E.Sx C.C.,Asst. M.O.H. to Newhaven UDC.
Dr. G. Kirker	Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens	5th April, 1957.	M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. Dub.	-
Dr. E.J. Neill	Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens	27th January 1957.	M.B.,Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,	-
Dr. R. Alexander	Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens.	27th January 1957	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	-
W.P.Harrison	Port Public Health Inspector & Food Inspector.	5th March, 1945.	Cert.R.S.I., & S.I.J.B., Cert.R.S.I. Meat & Foods M.R.S.H., B.O.T.Cert. Master Mariner	Public Healt Inspector to Newhaven UDC
Miss.R.Baldwin	Part time Clerk Port Health Dept.	4th October 1954	-	-
Mrs.L.Croucher	Nurse/Attendant Medical Inspector of Aliens.	15th June, 1956.	-	-

Address and Telephone Number of the Medical Officer of Health:- Lewes House, School Hill, LEWES, Sussex. Lewes 1282.

SECTION II.

Amount of shipping entering the district during the year

TABLE B.

Ships from:	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		No. of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage I.D. on board.
			By the M.O.H.	By the P.H.I.	
Foreign Ports	776	480,165	7	28	Nil
Coastwise:	198	60,368	2	36	Nil
TOTAL:	974	540,533	9	64	Nil

SECTION III

Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

Passenger Traffic.

Number of Passengers	INWARD	172,860
Number of Passengers	OUTWARD	175,810

(Principal IMPORTS.

	Tons.
Coal, coke and patent fuel	104,363
Fish	126
Fruit and vegetables	4,876
Other food and provisions	1,110
Iron and steel	3,035
Timber	4,204
Chemicals and chemical fertilizers	703
Raw wool	251
‡ Other commodities	24,593
TOTAL:	143,261

‡ Includes Motor Vehicles

Over one ton	682
Under one ton ...	4,138
Motor cycles	654
	5,474

(Principal EXPORTS.

Iron and steel	971
Oil & spirit, mineral & motor	64
Building and road materials	2,581
Machinery	3,651
‡ Vehicles and vehicle parts	9,709
Woollen goods	93
Other textiles	173
Chemicals & chemical fertilizers	281
Other commodities	14,788
TOTAL:	32,311

‡ Includes Motor Vehicles

Over one ton:.....	2,724
Under one ton:....	2,484
Motor cycles:	641
	5,849

PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive.

The main trade of the Port is with Dieppe and near Continental Ports, but there are also arrivals from Baltic and Scandinavian Ports with timber.

SECTION IV

Inland Barge Traffic.

This Port is not used by Inland Barge Traffic.

SECTION V.

Water Supply

No Change

SECTION VI

Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952

No Change

SECTION VII

Smallpox.

No Change

SECTION VIII

Venereal Diseases.

No Change.

SECTION IX.

Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseas on ships.

TABLE D.

Category	Disease	Number of Cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passenger	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	-	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	-	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships.	-	Nil	Nil	Nil

Short account of measures taken on arrival by ship of (a) any case of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus or relapsing fever excluded in Table D, (b) any suspected case of such disease.

No measures were required to be taken as there were:-

(a) No cases of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus or relapsing fever, and

(b) No suspected cases of such disease which occurred during the year.

SECTION X.

Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships

No case of malaria arrived at the port, nor did any vessel report a case of malaria during the voyage.

SECTION XI

Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected of Plague

No measures were taken as there were no ships infected with or suspected of plague.

SECTION XII

Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

Where possible the Public Health Inspector examines vessels for the presence of rats. A regular inspection is made in the case of Cross Channel vessels and an attempt is made to inspect thoroughly all foreign-going ships.

2. Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological examination of Rodents with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Arrangements exist for the examination of rodents from ships when necessary at the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton.

No specimens were sent during 1957.

3. Arrangements in the District for Deratting ships, the methods used and if done by a Commercial Contractor, the name of the Contractor.

The Port is a designated approved port for this purpose as from 1st May, 1957.

Trapping poisoning and gassing are available. The contractors carrying out this work are Associated Fumigators Ltd. and Ratsouris Ltd.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Ships using the port are mainly Cross Channel passenger and cargo vessels with a high degree of rat-proofing and little harbourage. Colliers entering the port have been found to be almost devoid of harbourage, while in the modern vessels rat-proofing is good.

If any excessive temporary harbourage is discovered the Master is required to abate same.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports

Category	Number
Black rats	Nil
Brown rats	Nil
Species not known	Nil
Sent for examination	Nil
Infected with plague	Nil

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports

Number of Deratting Certificates issued after fumigation with:-

H.C.N.	Other fumigant (State method)	After Trapping	After Poisoning	TOTAL	Number of Deratting Exemption Certs. issued.	Total Certs. issued.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	1

SECTION XIII

TABLE G.

Inspection of ships for nuisances. Inspection and Notices.

Nature and number of Inspections.		Notices served Statutory	Notices served Others	Result of serving notice
Foreign going	28	Nil	2	-
Coastwise	36	Nil	1	-
TOTAL	64	Nil	3	-

SECTION XIV

Public Health - Shell Fish

No Change.

SECTION XV

Medical Inspection of Aliens.

1. List of Medical Inspectors of Aliens holding Warrants of Appointment

(a) Dr.G.M.D. Lobban, Chief Medical Inspector of Aliens

(b) Dr. R.A. Stenhouse, Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens (Until 5.4.57)

(c) Dr. G.Kirker, Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens (From 5.4.57)

(d) Dr. E.J. Neill, Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens

(e) Dr. R. Alexander, Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens.

2. List of other staff engaged on this work.

Mrs. Croucher - Nurse/Attendant

3. Organisation of work.

The organisation of the work is such that the requirements of the Aliens Order 1953 are met.

4. Nature and Amount of Aliens Traffic.

	TOTAL:-	Number inspected by the Medical Inspector	Number subjected to detailed examination by the Medical Inspector.	Lunatic, idiot or mentally deficient.	Undesirable for medical reasons	Physically incapacitated	Suffering from acute infectious disease.	Transmigrants.
(a) Total number of Aliens landing at the Port.	43,290	42,367	923	-	-	6	-	-
(b) Aliens refused permission to land by the Immigration Officer	40	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Transmigrants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(d) Total Aliens arriving at the Port	43,330	42,407	923	-	-	6	-	-

Total number of vessels carrying alien passengers 374

Total number of vessels dealt with by the Medical Inspector 374

5. No change.

SECTION XVI

Arrangements for Burial on Shore of persons who have died on board ship.

No Change